

**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting: 7 November 2017

Subject: Financing of the Regeneration
Programme - Scrutiny Review

Responsible Officer: Alex Dewsnap,
Divisional Director of Strategic
Commissioning

**Scrutiny Lead
Members:** Community & Regeneration
Policy - Councillor Jeff Anderson
Performance - Councillor Manjibhai
Kara

Corporate Resources
Policy – Councillor Stephen Wright
Performance – Councillor Phillip O’Dell

Exempt: No

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: Report of the Regeneration Scrutiny
Review Panel

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the findings and recommendations of the Regeneration Scrutiny Review Panel which met on Wednesday 29 September and 5 October 2017.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 1) consider and endorse the report from the Regeneration Scrutiny Review Panel
- 2) forward the Challenge Panel's report and recommendations to Cabinet for consideration.
- 3) acknowledge that the substantive Cabinet response will be available in January 2018.

Section 2 – Report

Introduction

The Regeneration Scrutiny Review Panel was established to scrutinise the on-going Regeneration Programme. The aim of the Panel was to assess whether the Council's proposals for financing the Programme were realistic, affordable, robust and deliverable; ensure that the financial risks were properly considered and that the mitigations proposed were appropriate and balanced; appraise the projected financial benefits of the Programme; and provide Members with a greater understanding and clarity of the financing of the programme.

Key themes emerged including the interest rates that the Council may be subject to; the infrastructure challenges being faced; the population, economic and infrastructure modelling that required to be undertaken at a matter of urgency and the requirement for a robust lobbying strategy to be developed and implemented for the Programme.

The recommendations are based on evidence from local data, information garnered from hosting authorities, and from the Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Divisional Director of Regeneration, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council at the Challenge Panels. It is that hoped that this positive review can assist in development of the Regeneration Programme to ensure the best outcomes for Harrow residents and businesses.

A report on the Regeneration Programme is to be considered by Cabinet in December, so officers will provide the response report to the January meeting of Cabinet, to ensure that the position in the response report is as up to date as possible.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report. Cabinet will be considering the remodelling of the Programme at its December meeting.

Performance Issues

There are no specific performance issues associated with this report at this stage.

Environmental Impact

There are no specific environmental impacts associated with this report.

Risk Management Implications

Detailed discussions took place at the Challenge Panel meetings around the risk management of the programme. One of the recommendations requests that the capitalisation of wages be added to the Corporate Risk Register to ensure the Council has considered options to mitigate the risks around this against the revenue budget.

The item is subject to separate risk register as well as being included on Directorate risk register.

Equalities implications

Equality implications may have to be considered on implementation of the recommendations and an EQIA has been undertaken as part of the Regeneration Programme.

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

This review relates to the corporate priorities of:

- Build a Better Harrow
- Be more business-like and business friendly

Ward Councillors notified:	NO
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Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contacts: Shumaila Dar and Rebecka Steven (Policy Officers), tel nos. 020 8420 1820/ 020 8420 9695

Background Papers: Previous reports to Cabinet on the regeneration Programme